

## **NCSO COMPLETES INTENSE SAFETY TRAINING**



Members of the Navajo County Sheriff's Office have completed a series of intense training exercises to improve officer safety and tactics. Their training took place in October and was drawn from the "Below 100" initiative, a national program that is designed to reduce police line-of-duty deaths to fewer than 100 per year across the United States.

A total of 42 deputies took part in the program, which was led by Navajo County Deputy Daniel Brown. Deputy Brown has a long career in law enforcement. Prior to his service here, he served as an officer with the City of Mesa Police Department, a Sergeant with the Maricopa Police Department and an Acting Chief of Police for Gila River Police Department where he was a Division Commander.

"The program is centered on five major tenets," said Deputy Brown. "We want our deputies to remember the basics of safety and to rely on their training."

The five tenets of "Below 100" are: wear your belt, wear your vest, watch your speed, W.I.N (What's Important Now) and remember that complacency kills.

"I think every level and form of law enforcement deals with some form of



complacency," said Sheriff KC Clark. "In Navajo County, we've made Below 100 part of our yearly training both for our deputies and detention officers, and we're thinking about extending some of this training to employees in other areas of the county."

In addition to members of the Sheriff's Office, personnel from the Administration Department also attended portions of the training.

"There's a lot of cross-over in this training for non-law enforcement employees," said Allison Hephner, the county's new Risk Manager. "We're still figuring out how to implement this, but I love the idea of getting a great safety instructor like Deputy Brown in front of our other departments."

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TEAM** THINKS AHEAD

The time to prepare for a disaster is before it happens, and when an emergency is upon you, there is not always the luxury of figuring out the most ideal way to deal with it. That is why Navajo County's Emergency Management Team has started an effort to think through a post-disaster recovery plan to help Navajo County residents.

**Emergency Management Team** members Mary Springer, John Zimmerman and Allison Hephner facilitated the first post-disaster recovery planning forum on Wednesday, October 23, at the Mogollon Complex in Heber-Overgaard. Representatives from the local community, including the Heber-Overgaard Fire District, the Heber-Overgaard Chamber of Commerce, Ponderosa Lion's Club, Show Low Fire, Navajo County Sheriff's Office, DPS, and local residents participated in identifying and prioritizing post-disaster issues that impact their community.

"The forum was an idea born from an emergency training seminar that I attended at Harvard University in March and April of 2013," said Emergency Management Team Leader Mary Springer. "Long-term recovery was an area our communities had not received exposure to, so this was an area on which I thought we needed to place some real focus. We have looked at the immediate post-disaster timeframe, and as we continue to move forward, we will start to look more long term."

The first session attended by the group was an issue identification and prioritization exercise. The next session will be devoted to finishing issues prioritization, and beginning the process of developing plans to address those issues. Future sessions will help develop long-term disaster recovery plans for the community.

"We started this planning forum in Heber-Overgaard because this area was the focus of a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) flooding training exercise earlier this year," said Navajo County Emergency Manager Allison Hephner. "We also liked the opportunity

provided in the Heber-Overgaard area because it is a little smaller and less complex than an incorporated town or city. We feel that if we can work through a solid plan at this scale we can move to a larger scale much more productively."





## SHERIFF'S DEPUTY NAMED MADD OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR AZ

A Navajo County Sheriff's Deputy recently became a 2013 Mothers Against Drunk Driving Arizona (MADD AZ) Officer of the Year!

Deputy Asher Davis received the award at the organization's annual awards event in Phoenix. It recognizes the commitment made by individuals to help make Arizona's streets safer by getting impaired drivers off the road. Davis has worked for the Sheriff's Office for more than five years. He's made numerous DUI arrests, conducted more than 20 Drug Recognition Evaluations and completed more than 46 blood draws in the past year.

"Receiving this award is humbling," said Davis. "I enjoy giving back to the community where I grew up and serving all citizens and ultimately giving help to those in need."

Davis lives in the Show Low area and is a Certified Drug Recognition Expert, Qualified Law Enforcement Phlebotomist and holds a number of certifications related to DUI enforcement. He is a member of the local Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team and the White Mountain DUI Task Force.



"Deputy Davis' recognition is well earned," said Navajo County Sheriff KC Clark. "It's a gratifying cycle for deputies to protect and care for the very people – the teachers, the neighbors, the families – who once took care of them."

## PRESCRIPTION RX CARD CREATES BIG SAVINGS

Residents of Navajo County have saved more than \$12,000 by using the county's Prescription Discount Card. Nearly 700 people have used the card and have saved about 24 percent per prescription, since the start of the year. Navajo

County first started participating in the discount card program in 2007 and since then, the more than 14,000 users have saved more than \$300,000.

The Prescription Discount Card is free to all county residents without insurance or those whose insurance does not go far enough. The card can be applied to savings for family members as well as pets. More than 65,000 pharmacies honor the card. It's easy to use and there are no claims to fill out, as it is not insurance. To learn more about the Prescription Discount Card, or to sign up, please visit nacorx.org/print-a-card.



